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Second Book.

Reports of the Secretary of the

Sharon Equal Suffrage League.

Sharon,

Mass.

Organized Oct. 29, 1894, as the

"Sharon Woman Suffrage League".

Name changed Dec. 1. 1902.

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Constitution.

Art. 1. The name of the organization shall be the Sharon Woman* Suffrage League. It shall be auxiliary to the Massachusetts Woman Suffrage Association.

Art. 2. Its object shall be to advance the educational, industrial, legal and political interests of women.

Art. 3. Any person may become a member by signing the constitution and paying fifty cents a year into its treasury.

Art. 4. The officers of this League shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and an executive committee consisting of these officers and three persons in addition. The officers shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting in October by a majority vote of the members present, and shall hold office until their successors are elected. Any vacancy arising shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

Art. 5. A quorum shall consist of not less than five members.

Art. 6. This constitution may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting at any annual meeting, notice of the proposed amendment having been sent to members with the call for the meeting.

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* Changed, Dec. 1. 1902, to "Equal".

Oct. 2. 1905.

SHARON. — The first meeting for this season was held Oct. 2, with Mrs. L. B. C. Davenport. About 30 attended. Several solos were finely rendered by Mrs. Edmund Tuttle of Boston. Mr. Blackwell was the speaker of the evening. After his address, the president called for questions. Mrs. Davenport said doubt had been raised as to the success of full suffrage in Colorado, and Mr. Blackwell replied that there was abundant testimony to its success in Colorado and the three other States where it has been tested. Rev. C. A. Perry asked if we ought to put the ballot in the hands of women who are not interested in politics or national issues. Mr. Blackwell answered: "We don't raise the question as to men whether they are interested in politics or not." Dr. Caroline Hastings asked why it was not as just for bad women to vote as for bad men to vote. She thought that women in general were interested enough to have the ballot, but the only real question n the matter is the right and wrong of it. Mr. Perry alluded to the small number of women whe vote for school committee. Mrs. Davenport asked how many men would vote if restricted to one question only. Mr. Blackwell then said: "The mass of the people in the United States do not believe in the principles of the Declaration of Independence. The only people who believe in a representative government are the suffragists, and they are fighting the battle of democracy." A vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Blackwell for his very interesting address, and with the usual refreshments and social intercourse our successful "opening" was closed. MRS. A. P. H. and G. K.

From the "Woman's Journal."

Nov. 6. 1905.

The annual meeting of the League was held on Monday eve., Nov. 6, at the residence of Mrs. Thos. Haskell, with 11 persons present. In the absence of the pres. Mrs. White was chosen pres. pro tem. Reports of sec. & treas. were read and approved. Mrs. A.P. Haskel was appointed to represent the League on the Sh. Bd. of Directors. — A communication was received from Mrs. L. C. Davenport declining to be renominated for pres., and the election of officers resulted as follows:-

Pres. Mrs. M E. Hixson
V-pres. Mrs E. L. White
Sec. Wm L. Haskel
Treas. Mrs E. J. Kempton
Additional members of executive committee :-
Mrs. Harriet F. Sherman
George Kempton
Miss Winnibel Bowman

Each person present was asked to respond to the question: "How would you vote tomorrow if you could vote, and why?" Various interesting points of view were stated, and the fact was also made apparent that some intelligent and public spirited women, having no voice in the election, do not take the trouble to inform themselves in regard to the issues involved.

Dec 4 1905.

Meeting of League Dec 4 1905, at residence of L A Bowman, 16 present, Mrs Hixson presiding. Reports of sec and treas. read and approved.

Mrs. Kempton read a notice of the Wm Lloyd Garrison Centennial exercises, and

offered the following resolution:

Whereas, the centennial of the birth of Wm. Lloyd Garrison will occur Dec 10th & it is fitting that our League make some recognition thereof; therefore, be it

Resolved, That in his defence of the rights of women, including woman suffrage, as long ago as when he published the Liberator to promote the freedom of the slave, the name of Wm. Lloyd Garrison is worthy to be placed among the highest on the list of the reformers of our country.

The resolution was adopted. The question of placing a woman on the Board of Overseers of the Poor at the coming town election was referred to the Executive committee.

A paper was read by Mrs. E. L. White, reviewing the work of the League and comparing its past

and present condition, followed by discussion —

Thur. 2. 1906.

Meeting of League Thur. 2. 1906, at residence of Mrs. Kempton, 15 present, Mrs. Hipson presiding. Reports of sec. and treas. read and approved.

The following resolution was offered by Mrs. Kempton:

Resolved, That the women of Massachusetts should be urged through the press to ask by letter the following question of their representative and senator in the legislature, viz, — How much longer do you wish to have your wife, mother, daughter or sister classed with idiots, insane persons and paupers and not allowed to vote except for members of the school committee?

The resolution was adopted.

Wm. Haskel gave an account of the movement to secure an increased water supply for Sharon, followed by a discussion.

April 16. 1906.

A meeting of the League was held in the evening of April 16 in Lower Town Hall. This meeting was arranged by the Executive com. Each member was allowed to invite two guests, and about 40 persons were present. At the request of the President Wm. Haskel presided. Mr. Kempton offered the following resolution:

Resolved — That in the recent death of Susan B. Anthony of Rochester, N.Y., our nation has lost one of its most prominent and useful citizens, one who was always actively interested in the leading reforms of temperance, anti-slavery and woman suffrage. As a courageous, persistent advocate of Equal Rights for both sexes,

the women of this country are largely indebted to Miss Anthony for the benefits they now already acquired.

The resolution was adopted by a rising vote.

Miss Alice Henry, of Melbourne, Australia, gave an interesting address, illustrated by charts, on the constitution of Australia, the gradual granting of suffrage to the women of that country, and some things which have been accomplished by it, after which she answered questions asked by various persons in the audience. A social half-hour with refreshments followed.

October 22. 1906.

Meeting of the League at residence of Hon. & Mrs. Hasbel, 9 present, Mrs. Hilton presiding. Reports of Sec. and Treas. read and approved.

The officers for 1905 were reelected.

Mrs Caroline K. Perry was appointed to represent

the League on the State Bd of Directors.

It was voted to see if the W.C.T.U. would cooperate with the League in securing Rev. Anna H. Shaw for a Sunday evening address. Mrs. Hatch was appointed a committee to have this matter in charge, with power to take suitable action.

Nov. 19. 1906.

Meeting of League, Monday eve. Nov. 19. with Mr. & Mrs. Sherman, 12 present, Mrs. Dixon presiding. Sec's report approved.

Mrs. Hatch read a letter from Rev. Anna Shaw saying she might be able to visit Shaw's but could not decide until later. Mrs. Hatch was instructed to continue her work on the matter.

Voted: To omit meetings in Dec. and Feb. = Mr. Hamblin and others read various articles of interest relative to woman suffrage.

Dec 4. 1906.

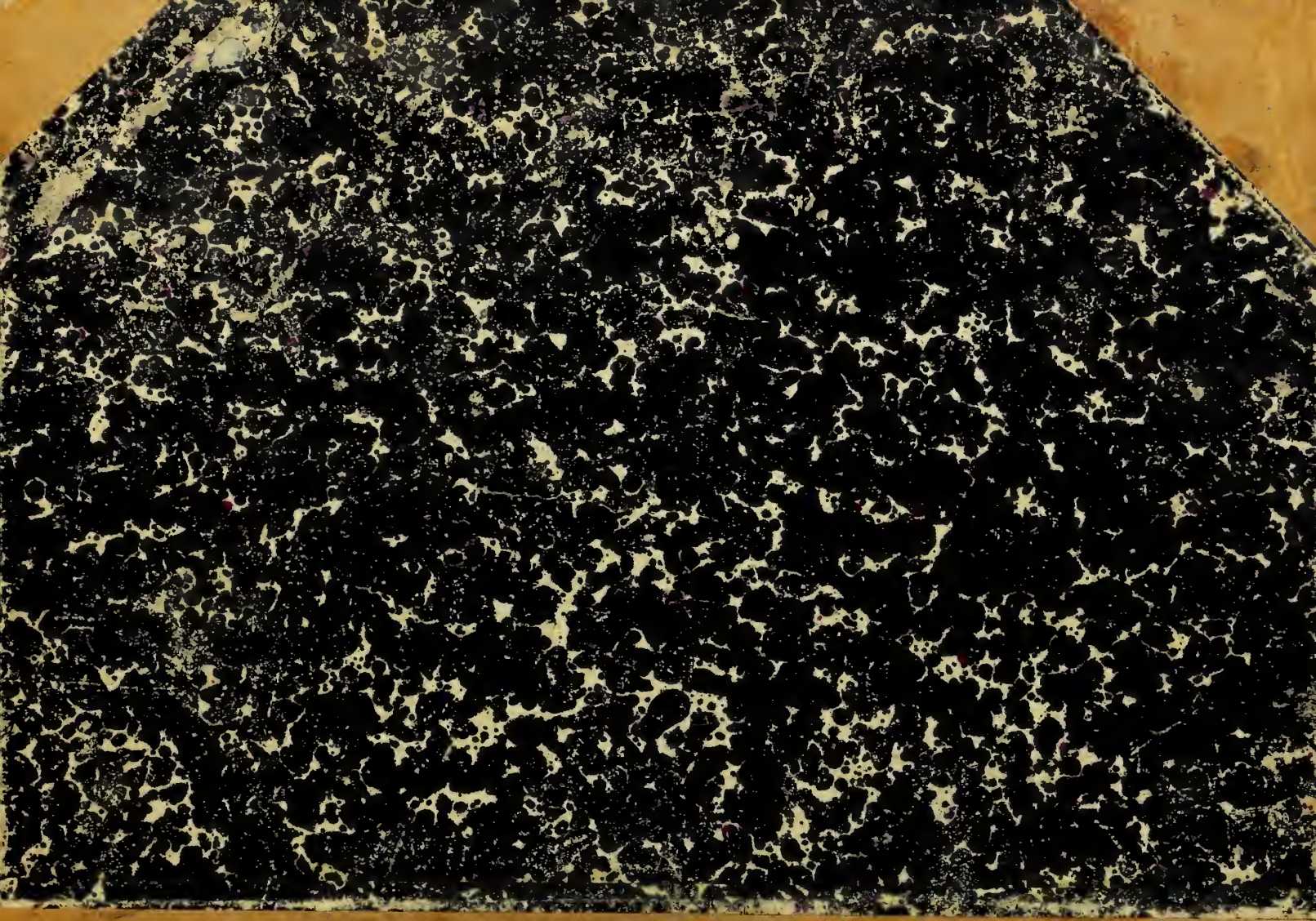
Meeting of League, eve. of Dec 4, with Mrs. Thies Bowman, 8 present. Mrs. Bowman was chosen to preside. Sec's report approved, and a letter from Miss Alice Stone Blackwell to the Leagues, giving an account of the progress of the woman suffrage movement, was read.

Jan. 27. 1907,

a meeting was held in the Town Hall, addressed by Rev. Anna H. Shaw, who delived a temperance address, taking as her subject "Social Heredity", the address having a general application to woman suffrage. The League and the W. C. T. U. united in bearing the expense, which was $25. for Miss Shaw and a few additional items. The churches were invited to cooperate, and the Cong. and Baptist churches did so, omitting their usual Sunday evening services. Rev. A. J. Dyer presided and Rev. N. Newton Glazier took part in the service. The address was most favorably received and the meeting a success. There was a large attendance.

Mar. 27 1907.

Meeting of League with Mrs. & Mrs. Kempton, 12 present. Sec's report approved. Items of interest relating to woman suffrage were read and discussed.

May 6. 1907.

Meeting of League, with Mrs. Hipson, 13 present Sec's report approved. Mrs. Haskel read a well prepared and interesting paper on Child Labor, which was followed by discussion.